



ASSOCIATION OF CARAVAN CLUBS VICTORIA AND THEIR MEMBERS INC.

Safety

Report on "D" & Bow shackles for attaching safety chains to towing vehicles.

RV Insurance

Lots of saving with RV Insurance.

Parks offer deals for Caravan Clubs.

The list of deals available is growing – check out our website.



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2014

VOLUME 29 - ISSUE 3

Have you got anything interesting to share?

This could include:

- Photos of travels
- Funny stories
- Caravanning issues
- Location information

Let us know about it – send an email to newsletter@accvic.org.au

LINES TO MAKE YOU SMILE

My husband & I divorced over religious differences. He thought he was God, & I didn't.

I don't suffer from insanity; I enjoy every minute of it.

Out of my mind – Back in 5 minutes.

I used to have a handle on life – it broke

Beauty is in the eye of the beer holder.

I'm not a complete idiot – some parts are missing.

Ever stop to think, and forget to start again.

Being "over the hill" is better than being under it.

Caravan Shows – Volunteers Wanted

Sandown Leisurefest – 2nd/5th October – Sandown Racecourse

This stand is being co-ordinated by Ken Haythorpe (Knox Caravan Club).

Bendigo Leisurefest - 21st/ 23rd November – Bendigo Racecourse

This stand will be supported by the Central Victoria CC on Saturday 22nd Nov and 4 members from Bendigo CC on Sunday 23rd Nov. Help is still required for Fri 21st Nov.

CONTACT US

ACCVIC Inc.

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www.accvic.org.au



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Booran Holden Cheltenham in conjunction with the Association of Caravan Victoria would like to extend the following exclusive offer to all members.

**FREE 24 HOUR TEST TOW VEHICLE[^]
FREE \$500 FUEL VOUCHER***

Caravanning has been a passionate past time for salesman Ed Borzym. For over 30 years caravanning has been in Ed's blood travelling to great locations throughout this great country. Add to this his 20 years' experience in selling quality vehicles. Contact Ed directly on the details below to find out more about this offer for all members.

BOORAN HOLDEN
www.booranholdencheltenham.com.au
1212 NEPEAN HIGHWAY CHELTENHAM



Ed Borzym
Light Commercial Manager
Phone 03 9584 3333
Mobile 0409 806 620
Email edb@booran.com.au

[^]Bookings required ^{*}Offer with every new car purchase. Voucher terms & conditions apply. Exclusive only to members of Caravan Victoria. LMCT1715

Wimmera Caravan Club Rally to Barham NSW

We left Horsham at 8.45 on Thursday and arrived in Barham at 11.35. There were quite a few vans already and the rest arrived during the day - a total of eighteen vans and one cabin. We settled in and had lunch. The room provided had a very big fireplace and it warmed us up quickly. Happy Hour at 5 o'clock and the Park owners provided a lovely lot of nibble of party pies etc., so a big thank you to them. Some of us played cards while others talked in the evening.



Friday we had a bit of sunshine and most left for a visit to Restdown Wineries. Half of us were shown around the area where they produced the wines and, then had a tasting. The other half went for a walk around the wetlands which the owners have established.

Read the whole story on the ACCVIC website "Member Travels" at <http://www.accvic.org.au>.

Colleen and Ray Harris

"You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough."

— Mae West

Sate Rally at Colac

Planning is well under way for the State Rally 17th-19th October this year to be held at the Colac Showgrounds Caravan Park.

On the Saturday, dinner has been organised at the local RSL, more info to follow.

- Cost is \$25 per/night (pay by Cash Only at gate) plus \$25 registration fee.
- Members can stay up to a week either side of the Rally at the same nightly rate.
- There should be sufficient water and power for everyone.
- Large pavilion on site, if required.
- Members from Clubs are asked to assist with breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings.
- Registration form is now available at <http://www.accvic.org.au>.

**PLACE
YOUR
ADVERTISEMENT
WITH US**

Gas appliance flue terminal requirements for Recreational Vehicles (RV) with annexes

A number of articles have been found relating to Gas appliances used in RVs.

Detailed information produced by the Queensland Government.

You can find the necessary links at our website <http://www.accvic.org.au> using | Topics | Safety.

Andy Grenfell, Technical Officer ACCVIC

Report on “D” & Bow shackles for attaching safety chains to towing vehicles

There have been a few reports recently about people being fined for having the incorrect type of “D” shackle to attach whatever they were towing to their vehicle – be it a caravan, boat or trailer. So far I have not been able to actually find anyone who has been fined for this unless they were towing something without the chains being actually connected.

I have checked quite a few websites of various state government departments and they all recommend that the shackles used should meet Australian Standard AS2741-2002 “shackles” or another equivalent standard, and that they have a break-load limit that is 1.5 times greater than the ATM of the trailer.

Read the entire PDF document at our website: <http://www.accvic.org.au> using | Topics | Safety, for more details.

Andy Grenfell
Technical Officer
ACCVIC.

“In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on.”
— Robert Frost

Offers of Discounts from Caravan Parks.



After consultation with Caravan Park owners it has become evident that many Parks are willing to offer discounts up to 25% under certain circumstances. The higher discount can be obtained during non-holiday periods and may be dependent on the number of vans and nights required. There are a few offers already in hand, so check them out.

If anyone has negotiated a good deal with a Park, let me know which Park and an outline of the deal and I will place the info on the ACCVIC website for others to see where the deals are. Email the info to webmaster@accvic.org.au.

If you would like to be notified automatically when new deals are placed on the website, go to <http://www.accvic.org.au>, select the "Deals on Offer" page and select the "notification/email" icon in the toolbar – complete the request with your email address.

Getting onto the NET

Recent stats from the Bureau of Statistics indicates that the largest growing sector of Internet Users is the seniors of our Community, outstripping all other age groups. When I talk to a variety of Caravan Club members - most have laptops (if not mobile devices) when they travel (even when they don't) and they are nearly always emailing and searching the NET.

It is a great way to publicise your group to the entire community. All of the statistics so far indicate that most new enquiries are made through the initial website contact than any other method.

Through my personal connection with ACCVIC, clubs have 3 basic alternatives:

1. Find someone to organize a website for you.
2. ACCVIC is offering clubs the opportunity to have their own dedicated page as part of the ACCVIC website, at no cost, **FREE**. You will be able to add, edit, delete and place photos along with any information you feel is relevant to your clubs activities. Remember, this only gives you one page not an entire website. For some clubs that will probably be sufficient. To see an example from a couple of clubs that have already taken this opportunity, go to www.accvic.org.au, select the 'Affiliates' item in the menu and you will see a couple of clubs listed – have a look at their respective pages – could this help you?
3. You have your own entire website (any number of pages you wish) and therefore have you own web address e.g. www.ballaratcaravanclub.org.au and also have all the email provisions you require – this option does have a cost of \$88.00 per year. No contract of hidden extras and you can cancel at any time.

With options 2 & 3, I supply adequate support to help get you started – no cost.

Any enquiries in relation to options 2 or 3 should be directed to me at support@myexpression.net.au.

Gary Fitzgerald

Director

My Expression P/L

Chairman's Chatter

(President's Ramblings August 2014)

Another year is more than half finished and as we say – 'where has the time gone?' I would like to hope we have all had the opportunity to attend a number of very successful and memorable club rallies. Thank you to the clubs who send a copy of their newsletter to our Association Secretary Ken, this gives us an update on club activities and future plans.

I would like to thank all clubs who have been promoting our National Association Member Benefit card scheme. It has been pleasing to hear of the savings our members have been able to receive through the Ken Tame Insurance Scheme. Over the past 3 months we have been advised on member's saving amounts varying from \$250.00 to \$1100.00. These savings are a great benefit to these member's pockets!! If you would like more information please contact myself or Secretary, Ken Slade, we would like to share the details with all clubs and their members.

In early November I will represent our Association at the National Association meeting in Sydney. We will be discussing the expansion of the member benefits which will provide additional opportunities to make savings whilst travelling within Victoria or Interstate.

Thanks to North East Victoria CC (especially Jim & Faye Doyle) for their wonderful effort with the recent Border Caravan Expo held at the Wodonga racecourse. These shows provide the best facility to promote club membership to the public at large. We need to encourage new members to our clubs and where possible assist establish new clubs.

Please take the time to visit our new look Association website. Many thanks to Gary Fitzgerald, for his wonderful efforts. Many members would not be aware that Gary is able to assist our clubs establish their own website – AT NO COST!! Please contact Gary for assistance more details.

Finally, I look forward to seeing as many of your members as possible at the State Rally in Colac 17th -19th October. The members of Western Districts and Wimmera Caravan Clubs have a great weekend program for all to enjoy. Let's support their efforts

Keep smiling and enjoying your caravanning.

Peter Hillas
President

More Happy Insurers

Reports are coming in that more people have save in excess of \$600+ on their RV insurance deals through the broker Ken Tame & Associates by having obtained the NACC Ltd Benefits Card.

So what are you waiting for, check it out at <http://www.nacc.asn.au>.

Go Make Some Memories

The Caravan Industry Association Victoria is working with their members to help prevent youth homelessness by supporting Kids Under Cover. Six Caravan Industry Association Members were engaged by the Caravan Industry Association Victoria to build a 23ft Family Caravan "The United Haven", The Caravan has been named 'The United Haven', United – to bring people together and Haven – for a safe refuge. 'The United Haven', will be raffled to raise over \$100,000 to support Kids Under Cover. Raffle closes 6th October 2014.



Head to our website at: <http://www.accvic.org.au> to read more.

Caravaners getting a Bad Rap!

Our three months trip to Cape York staying at both free camps and Caravan parks.

Jeanette and I heard from a lot of Councils and owners of caravan parks that they are closing free camps and raising prices of parks because of the rubbish and mess that caravaners leave behind. I found it to be the opposite on most occasions. We found that caravaners took their rubbish with them.

What we did see was back packers abusing free camps and stealing from Caravan Parks. On a number of occasions we saw back packers wait until the Park office was closed then jump fences and use camp kitchen and toilets of the parks. The rubbish they left was unbelievable; we actually cleaned up three camp kitchens' that had been left a mess after backpackers had used them.

We spoke to the owners of the park about the mess and one reply was "Well what do you expect us to do about it we can't monitor it 24 hours a day". These parasites cause caravaners to get a bad and undeserved reputation.

We spoke to a couple of backpackers and when they rented their vehicle they were giving a book on tips on how to "beat the system" ie wait until office was closed until you used the facilities (camp

Kitchens), Wait until no one is around and check out the camp kitchen fridge for food stuffs, stand next to a locked toilet door and wait for one of the residents to enter then follow behind, if there was no gate at the park entrance again wait until the office is closed then drive in and park right at the back of the park and leave early in the morning so you don't have to pay and probably the worst bit of advice they were given "Don't worry about any fines you are given by the time they get to court and they find you, you will be back in your own country. Councils can't enforce the fines and they can't physically force you to move form a spot until they take you to court (usually 21 days) this was definitely the evident in Cairns.

Maybe some caravan park owners and councils need to be enlightened into what actually happens after 5pm closing.

Ian and Jeanette Erale

CFA Cravan Club